

**DISASTER RECOVERY FUND AMENDMENTS**

2019 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Joel Ferry**

Senate Sponsor: Jacob L. Anderegg

---

---

**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill increases certain amounts that may be expended from the Disaster Recovery Restricted Account.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ increases the amounts the Division of Emergency Management may expend or commit to expending from the Disaster Recovery Restricted Account during an emergency or declared disaster;
- ▶ adds the Executive Offices and Criminal Justice Appropriations Subcommittee and the Legislative Management Committee to the list of entities to receive notice of expenditures of commitments to expend funds; and
- ▶ allows an expenditure of up to \$3,200,000 during fiscal year 2019 for operational costs.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**53-2a-603**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2016, Chapters 83 and 134



*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **53-2a-603** is amended to read:

**53-2a-603. State Disaster Recovery Restricted Account.**

(1) (a) There is created a restricted account in the General Fund known as the "State Disaster Recovery Restricted Account."

(b) The disaster recovery account consists of:

(i) money deposited into the disaster recovery account in accordance with Section **63J-1-314**;

(ii) money appropriated to the disaster recovery account by the Legislature; and

(iii) any other public or private money received by the division that is:

(A) given to the division for purposes consistent with this section; and

(B) deposited into the disaster recovery account at the request of:

(I) the division; or

(II) the person or entity giving the money.

(c) The Division of Finance shall deposit interest or other earnings derived from investment of account money into the General Fund.

(2) Subject to being appropriated by the Legislature, money in the disaster recovery account may only be expended or committed to be expended as follows:

(a) (i) subject to Section **53-2a-606**, in any fiscal year the division may expend or commit to expend an amount that does not exceed [~~\$250,000~~] \$500,000, in accordance with Section **53-2a-604**, to fund costs to the state of emergency disaster services in response to a declared disaster;

(ii) subject to Section **53-2a-606**, in any fiscal year the division may expend or commit to expend an amount that exceeds [~~\$250,000~~] \$500,000, but does not exceed [~~\$1,000,000~~] \$3,000,000, in accordance with Section **53-2a-604**, to fund costs to the state of emergency disaster services in response to a declared disaster if the division:

(A) before making the expenditure or commitment to expend, obtains approval for the expenditure or commitment to expend from the governor;

(B) subject to Subsection (5), provides written notice of the expenditure or commitment to expend to the speaker of the House of Representatives, the president of the

Senate, the Division of Finance, the Executive Offices and Criminal Justice Appropriations Subcommittee, the Legislative Management Committee, and the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst no later than 72 hours after making the expenditure or commitment to expend; and

(C) makes the report required by Subsection 53-2a-606(2);

(iii) subject to Section 53-2a-606, in any fiscal year the division may expend or commit to expend an amount that exceeds [~~\$1,000,000~~] \$3,000,000, but does not exceed [~~\$3,000,000~~] \$5,000,000, in accordance with Section 53-2a-604, to fund costs to the state of emergency disaster services in response to a declared disaster if, before making the expenditure or commitment to expend, the division:

(A) obtains approval for the expenditure or commitment to expend from the governor; and

(B) submits the expenditure or commitment to expend to the Executive Appropriations Committee in accordance with Subsection 53-2a-606(3); and

(iv) in any fiscal year the division may expend or commit to expend an amount that does not exceed \$150,000 to fund expenses incurred by the National Guard if:

(A) in accordance with Section 39-1-5, the governor orders into active service the National Guard in response to a declared disaster; and

(B) the money is not used for expenses that qualify for payment as emergency disaster services;

(b) money not described in Subsections (2)(a)(i), (ii), and (iii) may be expended or committed to be expended to fund costs to the state directly related to a declared disaster that are not costs related to:

(i) emergency disaster services;

(ii) emergency preparedness; or

(iii) notwithstanding whether a county participates in the Wildland Fire Suppression Fund created in Section 65A-8-204, any fire suppression or presuppression costs that may be paid for from the Wildland Fire Suppression Fund if the county participates in the Wildland Fire Suppression Fund;

(c) to fund the Local Government Emergency Response Loan Fund created in Section 53-2a-607; [and]

(d) the division may provide advanced funding from the disaster recovery account to recognized agents of the state when:

(i) Utah has agreed, through the division, to enact the Emergency Management Assistance Compact with another member state that has requested assistance during a declared disaster;

(ii) Utah agrees to provide resources to the requesting member state;

(iii) the agent of the state who represents the requested resource has no other funding source available at the time of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact request; and

(iv) the disaster recovery account has a balance of funds available to be utilized while maintaining a minimum balance of \$10,000,000[-]; and

(e) the division may expend up to \$3,200,000 during fiscal year 2019 to fund operational costs incurred by the division during fiscal year 2019.

(3) All funding provided in advance to an agent of the state and subsequently reimbursed shall be credited to the account.

(4) The state treasurer shall invest money in the disaster recovery account according to Title 51, Chapter 7, State Money Management Act.

(5) (a) Except as provided in Subsections (1) and (2), the money in the disaster recovery account may not be diverted, appropriated, expended, or committed to be expended for a purpose that is not listed in this section.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 63J-1-410, the Legislature may not appropriate money from the disaster recovery account to eliminate or otherwise reduce an operating deficit if the money appropriated from the disaster recovery account is expended or committed to be expended for a purpose other than one listed in this section.

(c) The Legislature may not amend the purposes for which money in the disaster recovery account may be expended or committed to be expended except by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house.

(6) The division:

(a) shall provide the notice required by Subsection (2)(a)(ii) using the best available method under the circumstances as determined by the division; and

(b) may provide the notice required by Subsection (2)(a)(ii) in electronic format.